

VZCZCXRO0278  
OO RUEHFK RUEHKS0 RUEHNAG RUEHNH  
DE RUEHKO #2239 2270840  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 140840Z AUG 08  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6597  
INFO RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 2731  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 0898  
RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA PRIORITY 9402  
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA PRIORITY 7562  
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA PRIORITY 1769  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE PRIORITY 3145  
RUEHKS0/AMCONSUL SAPPORO PRIORITY 9982

UNCLAS TOKYO 002239

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

STATE PASS TO USTR MBEEMAN, EHOLLOWAY  
STATE PASS TO USDA/FAS/OSTA DAWSON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ETRD](#) [EAGR](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: BEEF SHIPMENT VIOLATES JAPANESE IMPORT RULES

11. (U) The Japanese Government has posted information on the Agriculture (MAFF) and Health (MHLW) Ministry websites regarding the latest violation of agreed rules governing U.S. beef imports. The event consisted of a 4.5 kg package of uncertified ground beef discovered within a larger 3.8 ton shipment. The GOJ has announced a halt to shipments from the responsible plant.

12. (U) A Japanese importer, Japan Food Cooperation, reported the incident August 7 to Tokyo's Minato Ward Public Health Center. The shipment of 298 boxes, or approximately 3.8 tons of frozen beef, entered Japan in late July and a 4.5 kg log of frozen ground meat was later found to be not listed on the USDA certificate. The shipment was processed by Cargill Meat Solutions, Dodge City, Kansas.

13. (SBU) Japanese authorities announced a decision to halt temporarily all shipments from Cargill Meat Solutions, Dodge City and have requested, through the Embassy, that the USG investigate the violation. There is no evidence yet that the shipment included any high-risk material or represents any health risk, but the specified package was not listed on the accompanying USDA certificate. The MHLW and MAFF will consider further actions once they receive the USG investigation report and complete their own inquiry.

14. (U) The MAFF website gives more details at:  
[http://www.maff.go.jp/j/press/syouan/douei/08\\_0808.html](http://www.maff.go.jp/j/press/syouan/douei/08_0808.html)  
including a photograph at:  
<http://www.maff.go.jp/j/press/syouan/douei/pdf/080808-01.pdf>  
SCHIEFFER